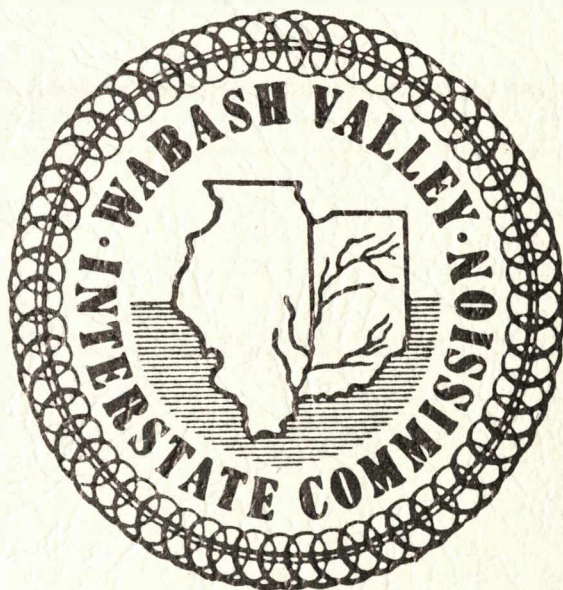


Wabash Valley Interstate Commission - 1963

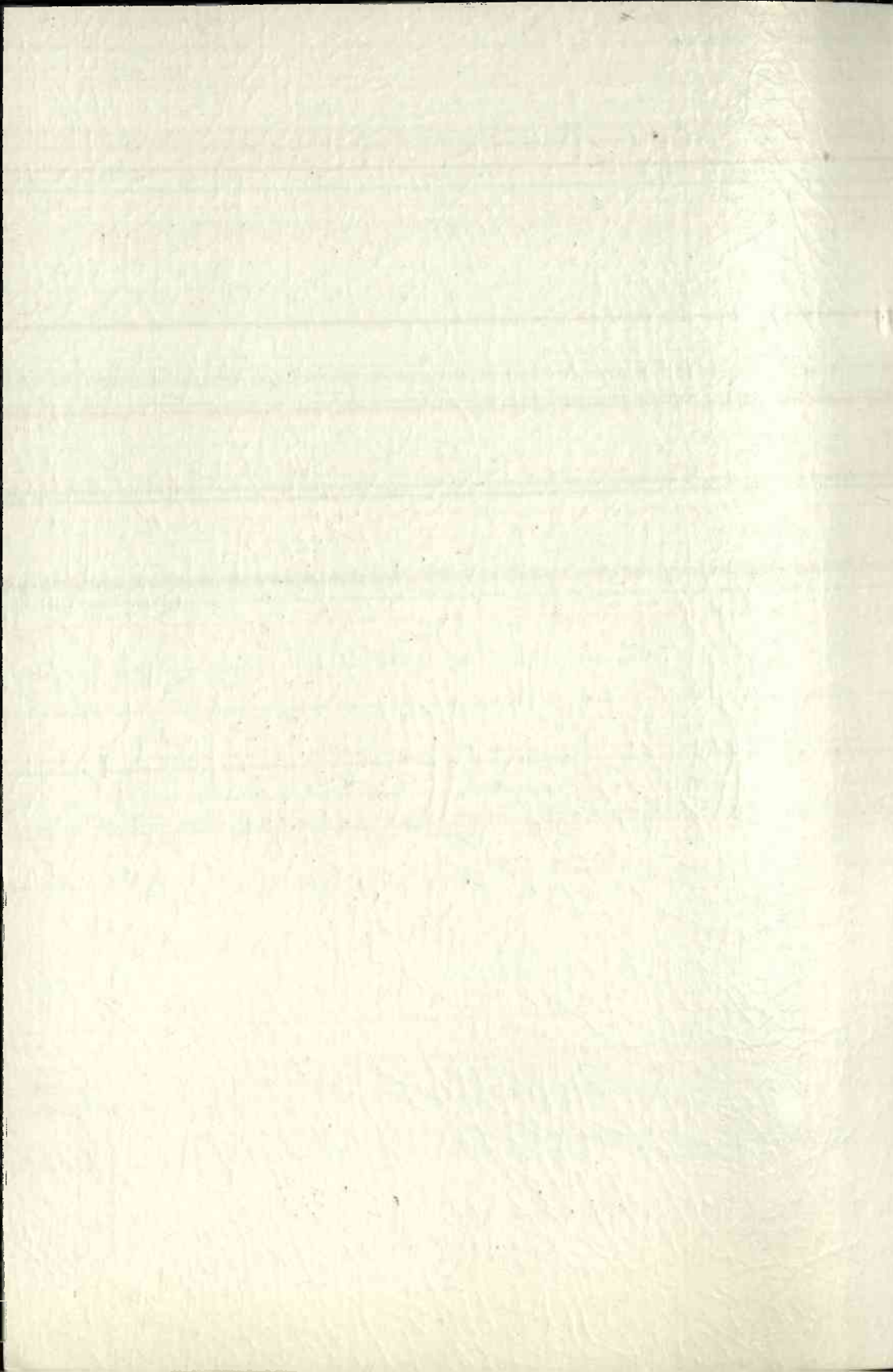
WABASH VALLEY INTERSTATE COMMISSION



INDIANA ROOM

ANNUAL REPORT
1963



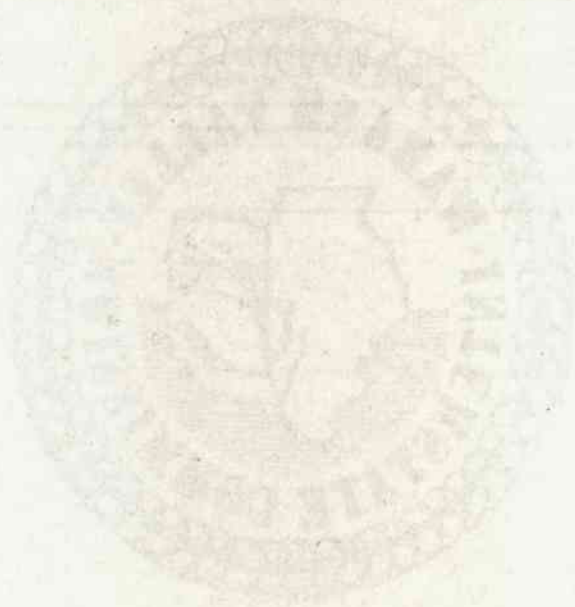


WABASH VALLEY INTERSTATE COMMISSION



ANNUAL REPORT
1963

WARREN VALLEY
INTERSTATE COMMISSION



ANNUAL REPORT

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THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Wabash Valley Interstate Commission and its staff have divided their efforts during the calendar year 1963 between two major facets of the Commission's program; first, working with state and federal agencies in an attempt to obtain a thorough study of the resources of the Wabash Basin and, second, working with groups of people in various sections of the Valley on specific projects to determine how we can most effectively assist local groups in identifying their problems and obtaining solutions to these problems under existing resource management programs.

The Commission has obtained the cooperation of four federal agencies in making comprehensive studies of the resources of this Valley. The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers is studying possible flood control reservoir sites and is investigating the potential of each site for multiple-purpose development and is conducting a study to determine the economic feasibility of constructing a navigable channel in the middle and lower Wabash River. The Soil Conservation Service is studying the upstream needs for water and the potential for development in the upstream areas. These two studies will provide the information needed to prepare a plan for the development of the land and water resources of the entire Basin.

In an effort to inform the people of the Valley, a brief resume of the studies is presented in this report, **The Comprehensive Survey of the Water and Related Land Resources of the Wabash Basin.** (page 1)

The Commission's staff working with Soil Conservation Service personnel in Illinois and Indiana has established a land classification system for the Wabash Valley. (page 4) Identification of land types according to the physical properties of that land will permit more adequate planning for the development of land particularly for non-agricultural uses.

The Division of Fisheries, Illinois Department of Conservation, while conducting a study of the fish population of the streams in the Illinois portion of the Wabash Basin, noted numerous instances of pollution. Identification of the pollutant and the location at which pollution was found was reported in the publication of the results of this fisheries survey. (page 2) Citing this evidence, the Wabash Valley Interstate Commission requested the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare to make a study of pollution resulting from mine wastes and oil field wastes in the Wabash Valley. This study is now being made.

The Department of Interior through several of its Bureaus and Offices are studying the recreational potential and needs in the Basin and the mineral resources of the Valley; these studies will be reported at a later date.

Working with local groups on resource development projects has enabled the Commission to determine the problems faced by the people in attempting to achieve more efficient use of local resources.

The creation of a Bi-State Airport Authority to develop, manage and operate the former George Field, a World War II trainer base as an air-industrial park for the cities of Lawrenceville, Illinois and Vincennes, Indiana was accomplished only after the passage of legislation by the General Assemblies of Illinois and Indiana. The Commission was instrumental in causing this legislation to be written. A report on this project which provided Lawrenceville with an improved airport, saved Vincennes the cost of a municipal airport and created for the lower Wabash a new economic potential is contained herein. (page 5)

The Commissions' staff has worked with numerous groups of people interested in developing watershed projects under Public Law 566, the Small Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act. In Illinois, the Commission worked effectively to obtain needed changes in the Soil and Water Conservation Districts' Law and assisted materially in obtaining state funds for watershed planning. In that portion of Illinois drained by the Wabash there were less than five projects under consideration three years ago, today more than twenty such projects are in various stages of planning, three of these are interstate watershed areas. One project has expanded into a Resource Conservation and Development Project which entails complete planning for the 670,000 acres drained by the Skillet Fork and its tributaries, an area which includes parts of 6 counties. The attitude of the Commission toward watershed development is expressed in that portion of this report entitled, **The Small Watershed Program in River Basin Planning.** (page 9)

Another project which the Commission is supporting is the proposal to establish a refuge for migratory waterfowl within the Wabash Valley. The Wabash River is an important flyway in the semi-annual migration of waterfowl through the Middle West, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed the creation of a National Wildlife Refuge to enhance this flyway and to provide hunting, fishing and other recreational opportunities for the people of the Wabash Valley. After studying many sites in Indiana, this Service has recommended the proposed site in Clay and Vigo Counties as the most suitable site in Indiana. (page 7)

Natural resource development and planning for future development must be based upon future demands for these resources. Although man is unable to predict the future, the best indication of resource needs is based upon a projection of population increase and economic growth. During the past three decades the population of nearly a third of this basin has been decreasing and the rate of increase for much of the remaining two-thirds has not equalled the national rate, thus population projections for the Wabash Valley are not as high as could be anticipated should this area achieve a growth rate more nearly equal to that expected for the nation as a whole. (page 10) These projections are offered to provide local groups some indication of the rate of growth, county by county. It is exceedingly difficult to project growth for small areas because there are many factors, some of them seemingly minor, which affect economic growth in a particular locale and thus can affect population

growth in that area. A second problem is consideration of the effect which planning for resource use may have upon the economy and upon job opportunities.

The education of our people has been a prime factor in all facets of our social and economic growth. Inevitably educational achievement in a populace has been not only indicative of intellectual ability but has provided the base from which further advancement has progressed. Significant problems for the Wabash Valley are identified in this analysis of education achievement among the residents of this Valley (page 12) and pose particular challenges to those of us who are interested in the future development of this area.

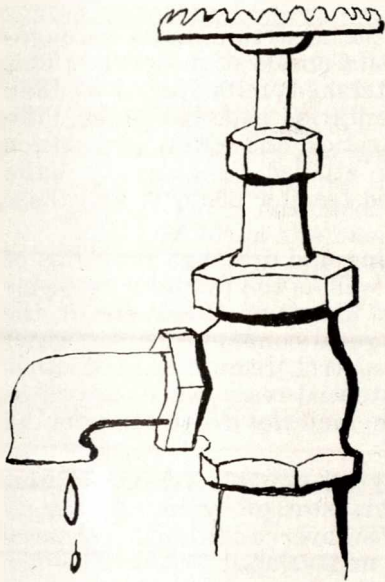
The Commission has available the complete reports which are herein abstracted. If you wish to receive these detailed studies, we have provided a postcard to be used in requesting those which are of particular interest to you.

CHARLES L. HEDDE

Chairman

Wabash Valley Interstate Commission

THE COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY OF THE WATER RESOURCES OF THE WABASH BASIN



The need for a comprehensive survey of the resources of the Wabash Basin is inherent in the assignment of purpose which accompanied enactment of the Wabash Valley Compact. In addition to establishing the Wabash Valley Interstate Commission, this legislation gave this Commission the responsibility of formulating a plan for the development of the resources of the Basin. The preparation of such a plan must be based upon an analysis of the available resources, problems associated with their use, present and projected needs for resources and an estimation of the economic potential which may accrue from efficient resource development, management and utilization.

Studies are being conducted by federal agencies in cooperation with state agencies which will facilitate planning for the development and control of

water. The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers is studying water and the related land resource development as it may be accomplished through the construction of relatively large reservoirs, the control of floods through the creation of reservoirs and levees and are making a preliminary survey of the Wabash River to determine the feasibility of developing a navigable channel in the lower and middle reaches of the river.

Cooperating with the Corps of Engineers in this study are the following federal agencies.

1. The U. S. Department of Agriculture through the Soil Conservation Service, the Economic Research Service and the Forest Service.
2. The U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare through the Public Health Service.
3. The U. S. Department of the Interior through the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Mines, the Assistant Secretary for Water and Power, the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and the Geological Survey.
4. The U. S. Department of Labor through the Bureau of Labor Statistics.
5. The U. S. Department of Commerce through the Office of the Under Secretary for Transportation, the Coast and Geodetic Survey, the Weather Bureau and the Bureau of Public Roads.

6. The Federal Power Commission
7. The Atomic Energy Commission

The objectives of this study of the Wabash River and its major tributaries are, flood control, water quality control, water supply, recreation, fish and wildlife conservation, power development and navigation.

The smaller tributary streams and the upstream areas throughout the Basin are being studied by the Soil Conservation Service. This Service has identified 520 upstream watershed units each less than 250,000 acres in accordance with the limitation established by Public Law 566, The Small Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act. These watershed areas are being studied as separate units identifying those which may be considered feasible projects and those which apparently are not feasible.

These studies will identify the flooding and drainage problems of agricultural and rural non-farm areas as well as the drought problems and the potential for use of water for irrigation. Analysis of the water needs in agricultural areas and in rural communities for water supply, industrial water, water quality control, recreation and other uses will be made. The selection of all potential reservoir sites will be accompanied by an allocation of storage facilities for water for all possible uses.

Thus these two studies will identify all possible reservoir storage potential and will allocate from this storage water to satisfy present and projected water needs. Whatever additional potential storage is available will constitute an undeveloped resource which may be considered for added economic development in the area in which it is available. Combined these studies will permit the preparation of a plan for the most effective use of small, medium and large reservoirs to meet the needs for maximum water control and development in the Wabash Basin from the headwaters to the mouth of the River.

POLLUTION IN WABASH BASIN STREAMS IN ILLINOIS



The Wabash Valley Interstate Commission requested the Departments of Conservation in Illinois and Indiana to make a survey of fish and fish habitat in the Wabash Basin. The Illinois Department of Conservation has published a report of the study conducted by the Division of Fisheries of that Department in the Illinois Portion of the Basin.¹

The following excerpts from this publication refer to pollution as noted at the field stations established for the fisheries study.

The Vermilion River Sub-Basin

"Pollution has been known to occur on five of the streams surveyed in

¹Inventory of the Fishes of the Wabash River Basin, Illinois Department of Conservation, Division of Fisheries, Springfield, Illinois.

this study." "No continuous pollution was found in any of the streams studied, but two sampling areas showed signs of pollution at the time of the survey with no dead fish resulting from it. One of these was Mill Creek in Clark County. Tiny 'oil slicks' would come to the surface of the stream when some of the silt areas in the sampling station were disturbed." "The North Fork in Vermilion County has had periodic fish kills."

The Embarrass River Sub-Basin

"The practice of purposeful and periodic flushing of oil field wastes in combination with the unintentional discharge of oil field wastes into the drainage presents a continuing factor decimating not only to the fish populations, but to other animals contiguous to the drainage. This condition has existed since the discovery of oil in the basin in the early 1900's."

The Little Wabash River Sub-Basin

"Domestic sewage effluents from populous areas in the basin serve to create problems adversely affecting fish populations. This condition does not compare with the general dispoilment of most streams created by industrial oil pollution. In this watershed the production of oil is synonymous with oil pollution of the streams."

These observations were reported following studies conducted at 58 sampling stations on streams in the Wabash Drainage in Illinois; evidence of pollution was found at 32 of these stations. After consideration of this report by fisheries biologists, the Wabash Valley Interstate Commission requested the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare to conduct investigations in the Wabash Basin to determine the extent to which mine wastes and oil field wastes are polluting the surface and underground waters of the Basin. This study of pollutants and sources of pollution is now being made.

LAND CLASSIFICATION IN THE WABASH BASIN

The continuing potential for over-production of food and fiber on American farms has caused the U. S. Department of Agriculture to stress the desirability of removing from crop production some 50,000,000 acres of land. Complementing this apparent surplus of agricultural land is the increased demand for land for non-agricultural usage. Suburban residential development requires more land per person for family living, greater acreages are needed for the establishment of cultural and commercial centers; industrial growth and automation requires additional land for industrial sites; increased earning power and shorter working hours has increased the demand for land for recreational use.



CROPLAND

Whether retirement of land from cultivation results from voluntary or arbitrary attempts at agricultural production control or from the intensification of competition for land for non-agricultural uses, that land which is less well suited to cultivation and probably less profitable to farm should be diverted from crop production to uses not requiring intensive tillage operations. Based upon this assumption, the land within the Wabash

Valley was classified under the following categories: (1) land suitable for intensive cultivation, (2) land suitable for cultivation with moderate soil and water conservation practices, (3) land suitable for cultivation with intensive soil and water conservation practices and (4) land suitable for woodland, wildlife and recreational use.

The Soil Conservation Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, in Indiana and Illinois provided maps identifying "problem areas" based upon agricultural use of the land. Descriptive material relating to each problem area included information on soil types, major use problems (assuming agricultural use), general slope conditions and land capability classifications. These were used to delimit agricultural use problem areas within the Wabash Valley.

The problem areas were then identified with each category in the classification. In this identification decisions, subjective to a degree, had to be made as to the feasibility of establishing farm practices relating to drainage and runoff control which would permit profitable adjustment of farming practices to the major hazards to use of the land for cultivation.



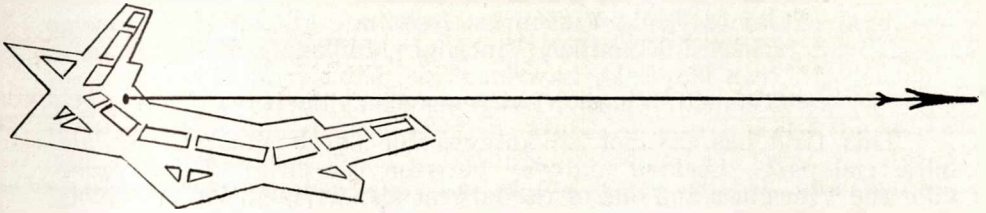
OTHER LAND

The map was prepared, in cooperation with Soil Conservation Service personnel in both Indiana and Illinois, for the purpose of identifying regions in which a majority of the land should be utilized for cultivation as opposed to those regions in which cultivation represents a less desirable economic use and in which efforts should be made to identify profitable uses for land which do not require tilling of the soil.

The classification of land in this manner suggests the possibility of future zoning of rural lands and, as well, provides some basis for zoning procedures. Categories 1 and 2 contain land which should be restricted for use now and in the future for crop production. Category 4 includes land which must be used for non-agricultural purposes, Category 3 and perhaps some areas classified under 2 are the areas in which decisions must be made as to the most satisfactory use or uses for this land.

The uncontrolled spread of suburbia, the haphazard and sporadic location of industrial plants are among the numerous instances of site selection with little regard for possible impairment of other cultural, economic and social values which certainly should come under advisement or control of groups representing all facets of the community or region. The zoning of land must be considered by other than urban groups and the capabilities of that land for all possible uses must be considered in developing zoning recommendations. In all instances possible, the demand for land for non-agricultural uses should be met through the development of land other than that which is best suited to the production of food and fiber. Only in exceptional cases, when significant benefits accrue to the general public, should these more productive agricultural lands not be retained in cultivation.

THE LAWRENCEVILLE-VINCENNES MUNICIPAL AIRPORT



The Annual Report of the Wabash Valley Interstate Commission published in 1963 included a report on George Field, a World War II air trainer base located in Lawrence County, Illinois. This report was made following a number of meetings with residents of Lawrenceville, Illinois and Vincennes, Indiana and with personnel of the Illinois Department of Aeronautics, the Aeronautics Commission of Indiana and the Regional Office of the Federal Aviation Agency. The Commission's Report included the following paragraph.

"It is the recommendation of this Commission, therefore, that: (1) a bi-state authority be created for the purpose of improving, rehabilitating, developing, managing and operating George Field as an airport facility, industrial park and such other economic developmental enterprises as may be found to provide for proper utilization of this tract of land subject to the conditions set forth in the transfer agreement with the War Assets Administration; (2) ownership of George Field be retained by the City of Lawrenceville and the proposed authority have control over the income from the 3,067 acres of land and the facilities thereupon both existing and to be established; (3) all buildings, facilities, improvements, etc., existing or to be constructed on and as a part of George Field, including cultivation of the farmland shall be constructed, improved, managed and operated by the proposed authority; (4) the proposed authority be granted the power to issue revenue bonds in anticipation of income to be received from the development and operation of George Field as an economic enterprise."

The Commission met with Governor Kerner of Illinois and Governor Welsh of Indiana, both Governors were enthusiastic in their support of the proposal. The Commission then requested the drafting of legislation necessary to create an authority through which governmental units located in more than one state could acquire, maintain, finance and operate air terminals. Identical legislation was passed by the General Assemblies of Illinois and Indiana enabling the creation of such an airport authority.¹ In accordance with the provisions of the authorizing legislation, the cities of Lawrenceville, Illinois and Vincennes, Indiana enacted identical ordinances establishing the Lawrenceville-Vincennes Bi-State Airport Authority.

The membership of this Authority is:

Michael Bonewitz, Vincennes, Indiana
Reuel Buchanan, Lawrenceville, Illinois

¹Burns Indiana Statutes, 14-805, 810 and Illinois Revised Statutes Chapter 15½-251, 257.

- *William Downes, Chicago, Illinois
- Rabb Emison, Vincennes, Indiana
- **James Funk, Vincennes, Indiana
- Richard Kixmiller, Vincennes, Indiana
- ***Ivan Mayfield, Lawrenceville, Illinois
- Kenneth Wherry, Lawrenceville, Illinois

This field has distinct advantages for development of an air-industrial park. Located mid-way between the cities of Lawrenceville and Vincennes and one of the largest airport facilities in Illinois, the field is located above an essentially unlimited supply of good quality groundwater, is adjacent to abundant reserves of coal, oil and gas and is on major north-south and east-west rail and highway transportation lanes. In anticipation of the advantages in the development of such an area the Chambers of Commerce of Lawrenceville and Vincennes have formed the Lawrenceville-Vincennes Area Industrial Corporation and leases from the Authority an acreage on which will be created an industrial park.

The Commission congratulates the cities of Lawrenceville and Vincennes and those officials and citizens of these communities who visualize a center of industry and employment where once stood a defunct army air base.

THE PROPOSED WABASH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Early in 1963 an area of land in Clay and Vigo Counties, Indiana was proposed as the site for a wildlife refuge. The Wabash Valley Interstate Commission considered this proposal at its meeting in April, 1963 and voted to approve the proposal contingent upon assurance from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service that this was the most satisfactory site in Indiana for such a refuge. Since that date more than twenty additional areas in Indiana have been studied to determine their suitability for development as refuges for migratory waterfowl. The result of these studies has been reported to the Commission and the Clay-Vigo County site has been recommended as the most satisfactory.



This area of 9,862 acres located five miles southeast of Riley, Indiana includes the site of the Splunge Reservoir, a reservoir created in the mid 1800's as part of the Wabash-Erie Canal System. The reservoir which originally covered some 4,000 acres has since deteriorated and part of the area has been reclaimed for cultivation. The region is a shallow basin the lower portion of which lies 20-27 feet below the rolling slopes which occur along the border of the proposed refuge.

Agricultural productivity of the land in the proposed refuge varies widely from very high production on the better drained uplands to low lying areas where numerous weed patches and areas of small

- *Appointed by Governor Kerner to represent the State of Illinois
- **Appointed by Governor Welsh to represent the State of Indiana
- ***Chairman of the Authority

brush growth indicate partial and sporadic abandonment of cultivation activities. Evidence of this variation in net income from farming operations is readily observed in the improvements of the land, approximately three sections of land produce heavily and have large investments in improvements. In the remainder of the proposed project area, improvements range from average to well below average for farmsteads in this portion of the state; at least some of the tracts on which the more valuable structures are located are rural residences of persons employed in nearby cities and towns or part time farmers who supplement their income through outside employment. Tax records show many tracts with no improvements. The total assessed value of land and improvements in the proposed project area as recorded on the tax books is \$456,595; of this amount \$243,905 is on land and improvements in Clay County and \$212,690 in Vigo County. This is an average of approximately \$46 per acre for the project area; a valuation of \$42.79 per acre in Clay County and \$50.41 per acre in Vigo County. The real estate tax charged against this property in the two counties for the year 1962 totalled \$23,863.42.

Values to accrue from the development of a wildlife refuge are numerous, varied and in some instances difficult to measure. The Wabash National Wildlife Refuge as it is proposed to be developed in Clay and Vigo Counties would provide a feeding and resting area along the Wabash River Flyway, an important avenue of travel for ducks and geese migrating between the Canadian nesting areas and the wintering grounds in southern Illinois. It is estimated that when fully developed this area would provide refuge for approximately 100,000 ducks and 30,000 geese during the spring and fall migrations. The area as planned would contain:

- 2,000 acres of water surface (of which
675 acres would be a permanent lake)
- 3,000 acres of marsh
- 2,000 acres of cropland
- 1,000 acres of timber
- 1,800 acres of recreational use area

The variety of uses for such an area is quite evident from the variety of landscape which is to be developed. Campers, picnickers, fishermen and hunters are only a few of the categories of our population who would be attracted to such an area.

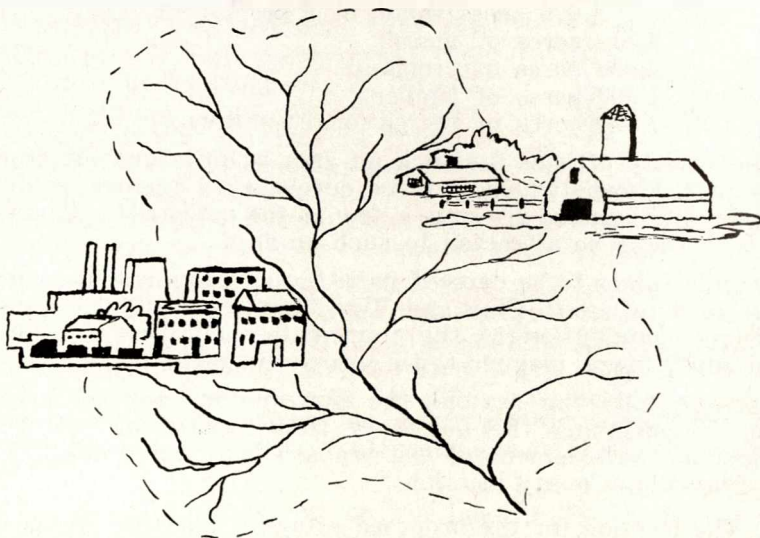
Economic values to be derived from the development, management and use of a refuge in Clay and Vigo Counties, Indiana would be a significant contribution to the immediate vicinity which contains several small towns plagued with chronic unemployment.

For the following reasons the Commission requests procedure toward accomplishing the necessary land acquisition, project construction and development of the Wabash National Wildlife Refuge at the Clay-Vigo County location.

1. The location for the proposed refuge is suitable and desirable in relation to the Wabash Flyway.
2. Although the methods and degree of water control in the proposed area tend to increase the cost of acquiring the land, it likewise reduces the cost of development of the project area.

Thus the total cost of the completed refuge would be comparable to or less than the cost of acquiring cheaper land which would require greater construction and development costs.

3. It is doubtful that any area of comparable size could be found in Indiana which would displace fewer people who derive their entire income or a major part thereof from the land needed for the project. There are 79 ownerships in this tract on which ownerships are located 46 occupied dwellings; of the 79 ownerships, 24 are being operated by full-time farmers and 12 are rural residences of non-farm persons, the remainder are operated by part-time farmers.
4. Although there are some acres of highly productive farmland in the proposed area, there are also many acres of very poor land in the area being considered and the highly productive land comprises a rather small portion of the proposed project area.
5. In view of the present agricultural surpluses and the attempt by the U. S. Department of Agriculture to reduce cropland acreages, it is not in the best interests of our economy to require the Department of the Interior to expend funds to bring waste lands into production if cropland can be obtained.
6. The establishment of the Wabash National Wildlife Refuge in the proposed location in Clay and Vigo Counties, Indiana would be of considerable economic value to an area which has suffered chronic unemployment and underemployment for the past three decades.



THE SMALL WATERSHED PROGRAM IN RIVER BASIN PLANNING

Flow control to permit maximum use of surface water and to minimize damages from runoff must begin with the rain that falls.

Since essentially all water available to management programs within the Wabash Basin occurs initially as runoff from farmland, the control of water as it moves across this land is basic to all development in the Valley. Runoff water control and stabilization of the land surface can be accomplished most effectively through the small watershed program.

The watershed project is, primarily, a local program planned and constructed with federal assistance through the Soil Conservation Service; since this Service works directly with, and in support of, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, these Districts then are responsible for the development of the watershed program. Many people, including some members of Soil and Water Conservation District Boards, have assumed watershed development to be entirely an agricultural program solely for the benefit of rural people. This is not true. Everyone, city and farm dweller alike, lives within some watershed and will benefit from its development.

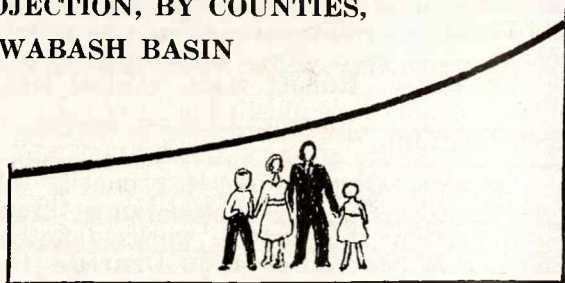
Agricultural water management in these projects may include flood protection for agricultural land, erosion control and land stabilization, removal of excess water through tile and ditch drainage, water for the farm home, water for irrigation and recreation.

Non-agricultural development in the small watershed program offers a variety of opportunities to both rural and urban residents. Although there are many profitable uses which may be made of non-agricultural land, direct benefits for other than farm groups may be obtained most frequently from the use of floodwater retention structure sites. These pools may be used for recreation, for water supply for towns and cities, water for industry and other uses; the land around them may be developed as sites for permanent homes or vacation cottages; for recreation, both public and private; as city, county or state parks or for any other use one may wish to make of a scenic, rural setting.

Recognizing that most of the land in this nation is in farms and that most of our resources are closely associated with the land and its ownership, it is apparent that single purpose development of watershed areas restricting the benefits of such development to the rural population provides neither efficient management of our resources nor permits realization of the full potential in economic opportunity from utilization of these resources. Soil and Water Conservation District Boards, if they are to fulfill their responsibility for the development of the resources of the District, must enlist the assistance of all agencies whose work concerns resources. They must also work with representatives of all facets of the local economy and with city, county and state governments to obtain maximum development of the resources of the area.

POPULATION PROJECTION, BY COUNTIES, IN THE WABASH BASIN

Planning for greater efficiency in the development of the resources of the Wabash Valley must be based upon an analysis of present needs



and future demands for developed resources. In the past numerous factors have been effective in changing the demand for specific resources and similar variations will undoubtedly occur in the future; inherent in any estimate of future needs is man's inability to predict future change. The most acceptable method of projecting future needs for resources both to satisfy consumer demand and as a base for providing necessary employment opportunities, is projection of population change and anticipation of economic growth.

The Commission's staff has prepared two estimates of population change, one, based upon present trends within the Basin, the second, assuming the proportionate share of a national population growth which might be expected to reside in each county in the Valley. In both estimates it is assumed the present relative density pattern will continue to exist.

The first projection assumes those factors which have affected population change in the Wabash Basin during the past two decades (1940-1960) will continue to be effective. Estimates for the period 1960 to the year 2000 were made based upon existing patterns of change. Should this assumption prove valid we may anticipate a declining population in approximately one-third of the Valley.

A second projection was prepared using data presented by the Select Committee on National Water Resources.¹ Basic to this determination are the population estimates for the years 1980 and 2000 as reported in the publication of this Committee designating low, middle and high levels of projection under each of two assumptions used by the Bureau of the Census to project state and national totals. It is extremely difficult to foretell, with an expectation of accuracy, the population distribution pattern within small areas. Projection of population totals for the nation, for large sections of the United States or even for individual states may be made with some assurance that the growth rate anticipated will be reached. However to identify distribution within state boundaries and, to a much greater degree, within county boundaries, brings into consideration migration factors which are difficult to identify in the present pattern and certainly cannot be adequately accounted for in projections for the next several decades. Nevertheless, projections by counties, have been prepared with the knowledge that even minor variations in the economy of a

¹*Population Projections and Economic Assumptions*, Committee Report #5, Select Committee on National Water Resources, United States Senate, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 1960.

particular area or a change in specific resource utilization may cause significant variation throughout the projection period.

These estimates are presented so that local groups may have some measure of the change which might be expected in the population of specific regions and that problems associated with this change may be anticipated.

Whether a particular area is faced with declining population or with a rapidly increasing population; the responsibility of the community to its members remains the same. Only through adequate planning can we go beyond the stage of solving existing problems and provide for future development. Although much of the Wabash Valley has lagged behind the national rate of population growth during the past several decades, it is assumed the development of presently unused or little used resources will stimulate the economy of many areas now plagued by a lack of job opportunities. It is anticipated that the formulation of an integrated plan for the conservation, development, management and proper utilization of the natural resources of this Valley and the implementation of such a plan will produce economic activity which will effectively change present patterns of population distribution and growth.

EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE WABASH VALLEY



Significant changes in population distribution in the Wabash Valley and in the structure of populations within specific areas of the Valley are occurring with the shift from a rural, agriculturally oriented economy to an urban, industrialized economy. More than one-third of the counties in the Wabash Basin are areas of decreasing population. Agriculture, mining and other basic production activities employ relatively small numbers of workers. Employment in these industries in terms of units produced has been continuously declining as operational units have increased in size and as mechanization and management have increased production per worker. Thus areas devoted to such primary production have in recent years become regions of chronic unemployment and underemployment, a condition which has been partially adjusted through out-migration of people.

Industries engaged in product processing and manufacturing and the service industries employ far larger percentages of a population than do the basic production industries and because of the difference in space requirements, both depend upon and encourage the concentration of population. Although the factors which prove to be enticing for industrial location are many and varied, of major importance as an asset for locational attractiveness is an adequate labor force. Increased specialization and the adoption of improved technology in production have required the development of increasingly greater forces of highly-trained and skilled workers. Such labor requirements have caused management to develop training programs within industrial organizations and increasing emphasis is being placed upon formal educational achievement as an index of the individuals' ca-

capacity for learning in job-training programs. For this reason, increasingly, industrial and commercial concerns are establishing high school graduation as a minimum requirement for employment.

Admirable as may be the intent to retain the youth of a population at home, realistically we must admit that many communities have ceased to serve any real function in our social order, and we must more adequately prepare young people of rural areas to move into the industrialized, urban complex.

THE ILLINOIS-INDIANA WABASH VALLEY COMPACT

Purpose of the Wabash Valley Compact¹

The purpose is to provide for development of the region through comprehensive planning for optimal use of the human and natural resources and the coordination of development relating its agricultural, industrial, commercial recreational and transportation problems to the opportunities in the Valley.

The Wabash Valley Interstate Commission

Seven appointed commissioners from each state constitute the Commission. The federal government is represented without vote.

A chairman, vice-chairman and treasurer are elected from the membership of the Commission. An Executive Director is appointed by the Commission.

Duties of the Commission

- A. Annually report to each Governor and to the President of the United States the activities and recommendations of the Commission.
- B. Submit a budget to each state in accordance with applicable state law.
- C. Establish a technical advisory committee made up of representatives of the appropriate agencies of each state. Other advisory and technical citizens committees may be established.
- D. Establish a seal of the Commission.
- E. Specifically set aside any donated funds before incurring an obligation to be met from them. Incur no other financial obligations prior to state appropriation of funds with which to meet them.

Powers of the Commission

A. Legal Status of the Commission

1. Enact By-Laws, Rules and Regulations

¹The States of Illinois and Indiana ratified, adopted and enacted into law the Wabash Valley Compact. The State of Illinois through passage of Senate Bill #78 by the 71st General Assembly, approved March 20, 1959 and the State of Indiana through passage of House Enrolled Act #22 by the 91st General Assembly, approved February 26, 1959. Approval of the Compact by The Congress of the United States was given by Public Law 86-375.

2. Sue and be sued
3. Acquire, hold and convey real and personal property
4. Establish and maintain such facilities as may be necessary for the transaction of its business.
5. Accept gifts from governments and private parties.
6. Borrow, accept or contract for services from any governmental personnel or agencies, or private persons or companies.
7. Hire and fire personnel
8. Establish an employee retirement system

B. Research Activities of the Commission

The Commission shall have power to:

1. Correlate and report pertinent data obtained by original or contractual research or by compilation of the results of research engaged in by other bodies.
2. Recommend the coordination of studies of appropriate agencies of both states.
3. Publish materials and studies

C. Advisory Functions of the Commission

The Commission shall collect and correlate information in that it may be better able to:

1. Encourage the appropriate use of Valley land, water and other natural resources, and recommend local zoning standards to facilitate the establishment of:
 - a. industrial parks
 - b. domestic, agricultural, industrial, recreational and transportation water supplies
 - c. public access and ways to recreational waters
 - d. wildlife preserves
 - e. forests on submarginal lands
 - f. protective measures for scenic values
2. Cooperate in the preparation of a master public works plan.
3. Encourage flood plain zoning and evolve standards for its implementation and application.
4. Cooperate with other public agencies in order to promote tourism.
5. Make informed recommendations to the executive and legislative bodies of the party states and the federal government and all agencies of such bodies.

